



# INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

the old stone church of independence

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## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*August 27, 2023 (Proper 16)*



C.J. Briggs, Music Director  
Julie Lehmann, Church Secretary

Joe Stern, Liturgist  
Rev. David Wigger, Pastor

*And Joseph died, being one hundred ten years old;  
he was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt.*

~ Genesis 50:26 (Final verse of Genesis)

## ~ GATHERING ~

### GATHERING MUSIC

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(from Genesis 46)*

God spoke to Israel in visions of the night:

**I will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again.**

### PRELUDE

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 136)*

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever.**

O give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever;**

who alone does great wonders,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever;**

who spread out the earth on the waters,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever;**

who made the great lights,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever;**

the sun to rule over the day,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever;**

the moon and stars to rule over the night,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever;**

who brought Israel up,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever.**

O give thanks to the God of heaven,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Come, let us worship God.

#### \*HYMN

FOREVER

[See Insert]

by Chris Tomlin

### CHILDREN OF GOD

## POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, when faced with earthly powers that seem overwhelming, we crumble. We fear this world. We fear losing our status, our stability, our station more than we revere you. Forgive our shortcomings and teach us to trust in you when we take a risk for what we know is right. Amen.

*[Silent Confession]*

### \*RESPONSE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #551

American folk melody (performed by C.J. Briggs)

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God is with us, steadfast and faithful, as we seek to live in peace.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

~ *THE WORD* ~

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

#### GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 2:13-15, 19-21

(NRSV)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### HYMN

HEAR MY CRY, O GOD AND SAVE ME!

GTG #781

by Michael Morgan

GENEVAN 77

#### TORAH READING

GENESIS 46-50

(Select Verses)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

GOD PROMISED

~ **RESPONDING TO THE WORD** ~

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

**\*INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**\*RESPONSE**

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

~ **SENDING** ~

**\*HYMN**

THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE

GTG #49

by Moses Maimonides

LEONI

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

NEXT WEEK:

HYMN SING WORSHIP IN THE COURTYARD

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Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA); *Call to Worship*, *Lectionary Aids*; *Presbyterian Outlook*, Teri Ott.

Cover Image: *Refugees, Holy Family*. Kelly Latimore.